

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A system for modifying an original document with original document portions sent over a communications network by a plurality of content providers, said system comprising:

a) a plurality of user sets are coupled to said communications network for receiving said original document with original document portions, each user set comprising:

i) a database for storing a list of undesired parameters;

ii) a controller for comparing the contents of the original document to said undesired parameters to determine if the contents of original document include any undesired portions; and

iii) a swapping component for sending a swap order, if the controller determines that an undesired portion exists; and

b) a substitute document server for receiving said swap order and when a swap order is received, sending a substitute null document portion to said user set that sent said swap order, wherein said swapping component receives said substitute null document portion and inserts said substitute null document portion in place of said undesired portion before presentation to a user of said user set, thereby obtaining a modified document.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein said controller is located on the premises of a service provider located between said communications network and said controller and said swapping component is integrated with said controller.

3. The system of Claim 1, wherein said original document portions are data packets.

4. The system of Claim 1, wherein said list of undesired parameters comprises junk mail content information.

5. The system of Claim 1, wherein said list of undesired parameters comprises virus information.

6. The system of Claim 1, wherein said list of undesired parameters comprises unrequested confidential content information.

7. The system of Claim 1, wherein said communications network is the Internet.

8. The system of Claim 1, wherein said user set comprises a computer.

9. The system of Claim 1, wherein said user set comprises a television set.

10. A method for modifying an original document with document portions sent over a communications network by at least one of a plurality of content providers to a user set, said method comprising:

- a) storing a list of undesired parameters;
- c) comparing the contents of the sent original document to said stored list of undesired parameters to determine if the contents of original document include any undesired portions;
- d) issuing a swap order, if the controller determines that an undesired portion exists;
- e) sending a substitute null document portion to said user set that sent said swap order, when a swap order is issued; and
- f) substituting said null document portion in place of said undesired portion before presentation to a user of said user set, thereby obtaining a modified document.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein said original document portions are data packets.

12. The method of Claim 10, wherein said list of undesired parameters comprises junk mail content information.

13. The method of Claim 10, wherein said list of undesired parameters comprises virus information.

